

Emergency Medical Services Commission Meeting Minutes

DATE: March 26, 2004

LOCATION: Indiana Government Center,
Indianapolis

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Miller (Private Ambulance)
Timothy R. Sandy (Volunteer Fire)
Rodney Coats (General Public)
Carol Sublett (Volunteer EMS)
Michael Seaver (Emergency Nurses)
Bill Hufford (Paramedics)
Michael Olinger, MD (Trauma Physicians)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Doyle Yeager, MD (Emergency Physicians)
Melanie Jane Craigin (Hospital EMS)
Tim Davie (Municipal Fire)
Dennis Probasco (EMTs)

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Garvey, Deputy Director
Brad Gavin, Agency Counsel

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rodney Coats.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Carol Sublett offered a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Gary Miller. The minutes were approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

EMS PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION REPORT

First Responders certified this date:..... 7,536
Emergency Medical Technicians to be certified this date:.....
359
Emergency Medical Technicians currently certified:.....14,872
Emergency Medical Technicians recertified this date:139

Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians to be certified this date: 26
Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians currentlycertified:..... 1,332
Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians recertified this date:.....10

Paramedics to be certified this date: 26
 Paramedics currently certified: 2,494
 Paramedics recertified this date:
38

Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate to be certified this
 date:.....14
 Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate currently certified:
23
 Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate recertified this date:
 0

Temporary Certifications issued:

EMT-B: 0

Advanced EMT..... 0

Paramedic:..... 0

Drivers Certifications currently certified:.....976

Michael Olinger offered a motion to accept the report. Second by Ms. Sublett. The motion was approved.

EMS PROVIDER CERTIFICATION REPORT

ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport,
 EMT Basic-Advanced, Paramedic
 Organization.....
 6

ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Paramedic
 Organization3

ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization
1

ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced
 Organization, Paramedic Organization
1

7

ALS Non-Transport Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic
 Organization..... 14

ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced
 Organization..... 2

ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization,
 Paramedic Organization 2

ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization,
 Paramedic Organization,

Rescue Squad Organization

.....1

ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Rescue Squad Organization1

ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, Paramedic Organization

.....1

ALS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced

Organization.....1

ALS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization

.....2

ALS Non-Transport, Paramedic

Organization.....

.....4

Ambulance Service

Provider.....

.....112

Ambulance Service, BLS Non-Transport

.....26

Ambulance Service, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced

Organization..... 3

Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization

.....1

Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization.....3

Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad

.....1

Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Paramedic Organization

..... 4

Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Rescue

Squad.....5

Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced

Organization.....26

Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT-Intermediate Organization1

Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced, EMT-Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization.....2

Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization 64

Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Advanced-Basic Organization Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad	3
Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization.....	2
Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad.....	1
Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization, Rotocraft Air Ambulance.....	3
Ambulance Service Provider, Rescue Squad.....	.2
BLS Non-Transport Organization	287
BLS Non-Transport, Rescue Squad.....	93
Rescue Squad Organization	7
Rotocraft Air Ambulance.....	8
Total Providers	729

Dr. Olinger offered a motion to accept the report. Second by Mr. Miller. The motion was approved.

EMS OPERATIONS REPORT

EMS Vehicle Inspections:.....	172
Provider/Hospital Applications Processed:.....	71
EMS Provider Visits:.....	63
EMS Provider Audits:.....	10
Hospital Visits:.....	14
Hospital Audits:.....	03
EMT Tests Proctored	08

Sherrie Crain, EMS Operations Director, reported that staff was beginning planning for a series of Provider Forums for May and June. Ms. Crain also reminded the audience that EMS Week would be May 16 through May 22.

2004 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Agency Counsel Brad Gavin reported that some of the new legislation would have an

impact on EMS. Of special interest is a special licensing bill that waives inservice requirements under certain circumstances such as military duty, serious illness, etc.

EMS DATA REGISTRY

Mark Nelson reported that Access Indiana had completed a test website and hopes to have the EMS website on-line by June.

EMS EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tony Pagano reported that a representative from a training institution accrediting organization, CAAHEP, would be at the April 12 meeting of the committee. He also reported that the committee was studying the issue of pediatric defibrillation with an AED. The committee will be making a recommendation to the commission at a future meeting.

PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE CODE REVISIONS

District Manager Robin Stump presented the commission with an updated list of proposed changes to the proposed rule package, LSA Document 03-188.

Gary Miller offered a motion to change the proposed rule language for 836 IAC 4-3-2(f)(4) to read "...any skill that requires a first responder." Second by Mr. Sandy. The motion was adopted. Dr. Olinger requested that the proposed rule language for 836 IAC 2-2-1(i) be changed to read "...dispatched for a paramedic response."

Mr. Miller offered a motion to adopt the proposed rule language LSA Document 03-188, including the amendments changing the wording in 836 IAC 2-2-1(I) and 836 IAC 4-3-2(f)(4). Second by Mr. Sandy. The motion was approved.

Dr. Olinger expressed his compliments to staff for their hard work on the rule package and for their efforts to put the rules in a more understandable format.

LEGAL MATTERS

PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE CASES

RENEWAL of EMERGENCY ORDERS of SUSPENSION

AGENCY ORDER

AGENCY DENIAL of EMT CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

PROBATIONARY CERTIFICATIONS ISSUED

Mr. Gavin reported that the Legal Matters agenda items were for information only and required no action by the commission.

CONSIDERATION for NON-RULE POLICY STATEMENT

Mr. Miller informed the commission that the Indiana Ambulance Association was concerned with the current definition of EMT Basic Advanced as a level of Basic life support and the listing of some advanced skills in the definition of Basic Life support. The concern is that the skills will be reimbursed at the basic rate causing additional financial loss the provider organizations. He stated that the association was developing a non-rule policy statement for the commission's consideration.

EMS COMMISSION RULE WAIVER REQUESTS

WAIVER for PILOT PROGRAM to EVALUATE EFFICACY of BASIC EMT PERSONNEL PERFORMING BLOOD GLUCOSE TESTING.

This item remains tabled on a motion by Dr. Olinger and a second by Mike Seaver pending additional information from the Indiana University School of Medicine.

PROVIDERS:

American Medical Response, Evansville, 836 IAC 2-2-1(f), UHF communication capability

Requesting a waiver of requirement for UHF communication for paramedic organizations.

Staff's recommendation is to approve the waiver for one year.

Ms. Sublett offered a motion to accept staff's recommendation. Second by Dr. Olinger. The motion passed. The request is approved.

Knox County EMS, Vincennes, 836 IAC 2-7.1-1(h)(2) staffing on EMT-Intermediate

Requesting an amendment to the current waiver to replace the EMT with a First Responder as the second crewmember on paramedic ambulances, to include staffing on EMT-Intermediate ambulances. Mr. Miller asked for and received confirmation that Halter-Smith Ambulance Service, which received the original waiver, was the same organization as Knox County EMS.

Staff's recommendation is to approve the waiver.

Ms. Sublett offered a motion to accept staff's recommendation. Second by Chairman Coats. The motion passed. The request is approved.

PERSONNEL RULE WAIVER REQUESTS

Timothy J. Eisele, First Responder, LP39277, expired 4/1/03:

Requesting permission to complete an 8-hour refresher course and complete the required testing to regain his certification.

Staff's recommendation is to approve the waiver.

Dr. Olinger offered a motion to accept staff's recommendation. Second by Bill Hufford.

Tim Sandy expressed concern that it was the individual's responsibility to send in their inservice report, not the provider organization. He stated that the department is question is in the midst of controversy. He also stated that the department had offered ample inservice opportunities for Mr. Eisele to attend. Mr. Pagano responded that the staff's

recommendation was consistent with similar requests in the past.

The motion was approved. The request is granted.

Doug Heller, First Responder, LP42203, expired 4/1/03:

Requesting permission to complete an 8-hour refresher course and complete the required testing to regain his certification.

Staff's recommendation is to approve the waiver.

Mr. Miller offered a motion to accept staff's recommendation. Second by Mr. Seaver. (Mr. Sandy's concerns apply to this request as well.) The motion was approved. The request is granted.

Michael F. Kyburz, First Responder, WT30235, expired 10/1/02:

Requesting his certification be reinstated upon submission of proof of inservice obtained during his certification period. Mr. Kyburz had failed to send the report when due.

Staff's recommendation is to deny the request and require Mr. Kyburz to take and successfully complete the State first responder written and practical skill examinations in order to be certified.

Mr. Seaver offered a motion to accept staff's recommendation. Second by Bill Hufford. The motion passed. The request is denied.

During the meeting Executive Director Patrick Ralston arrived to express to the commission his pleasure and satisfaction in serving as the Executive Director. Director Ralston is retiring from over 30 years of public service and joining the private sector. Director Ralston then presented Luther Taylor, chief of South Bend Fire Department. Chief Taylor has been appointed by Governor Kernan to replace Director Ralston. Chief Taylor stated he is looking forward to his new duties and to working with the commission.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR and CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman granted a request for permission to speak to the commission.

Myron Mackey, Bicknell, urged the commission to consider the needs of the more rural areas of the State as it studied future rule revisions. While lack of manpower may be growing statewide, it is especially an issue in rural areas. Mr. Mackey stated that he believes it is wrong to limit the use of ALS skills simply because the driver of the ambulance is not an EMT.

Mr. Mackey presented letters from Tina Butt, Dearborn County Hospital, and Mike Poole, PMH Ambulance Service. Ms. Butt expressed gratitude for the repeal of the 24-hour coverage rule for EMT Basic-Advanced personnel. The change has allowed services in her area to move to the EMT Basic-Advanced level. While those services desire to move to the EMT-I level, they know it is not possible as long as the 24-hour requirement is in place. Mr. Poole's concern was that a lack of volunteers has caused his organization to cease providing 24-hour coverage. They have a temporary arrangement with a paid ambulance service to cover some of its runs. Members of the paid service are

willing to volunteer for his organization but they would not be permitted to use their advanced and paramedic skills. Since the paid, ALS service has a 25 minute response time, being able to provide ALS care even on a part-time basis would be a great asset to the community.

Bill Windsor, Southwest District Ambulance, Knightstown, told the commission that his volunteer department has an agreement with a paramedic non-transporting service. Since the volunteer department cannot always produce a full crew for transport. This causes a delay since an ambulance from another community needs to be called. The organization believes the patient would best be served if the department could respond with their EMT or First Responder as a driver and the medic from the other organization as the caregiver.

Wayne Schuetz, Owner of Southwest Medical Service, Washington, asked the commission to consider the lack of manpower at all certification levels in the rural areas. He suggested that the commission establish rules that allow provider organizations to provide the highest level of patient care with the manpower they have available.

Mr. Miller reported that Medicaid has been overpaying organizations for wheel chair transports. Providers need to know that Medicaid will be asking for the overpayments to be returned.

2004 EMS COMMISSION MEETING DATES

Friday, May 21

Friday, July 23

Thursday, September 16 (annual conference)

Friday, November 19

Locations will be announced later.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.